

FOR RELEASE: August 1, 2000

Paul Urges Colleagues to Support Education Tax Credits *Promotes Education Agenda, HR 935 and 936*

Washington, D.C. - Representative Ron Paul recently urged his colleagues to support tax credits in education by cosponsoring two pieces of his legislation. The "Family Education Freedom Act" (HR 935) and the "Education Improvement Tax Cut Act" (HR 3636) are aimed at improving education through tax credits. Paul noted that since Arizona instituted education tax credits, the state has enjoyed a significant increase in resources invested in both private and public education. "The Arizona experience is further proof that putting control of education resources into the hands of the American people through education tax credits is the best way to improve education," Paul stated. "Tax credits allow parents and other concerned citizens to devote more of their resources to education, and allow the American people to work with educators to ensure that all children have the opportunity to receive a quality education that suits each child's unique needs." "The Family Education Freedom Act" (HR 935) provides parents with an annual tax credit of up to \$3,000 per child for expenses incurred in providing a quality K-12 public, private, or home-based education for their children. It allows parents the maximum amount of freedom in determining how to educate their children. "The Education Improvement Tax Cut Act" (HR 936) provides a tax credit of up to \$3,000 for contributions to K-12 public, private, religious, or home schools, in the form of scholarships, cash, or in-kind gifts. This legislation encourages local citizens and community leaders to help strengthen local schools. "Over the last thirty years, we have seen increasing centralization of education in the hands of federal bureaucrats" Paul continued. "Parental control has been diminished. It is time for Washington to return control of the nation's school system to the people who know best the needs of children --local communities and parents. The key is to return control of the education dollar back to the American people through tax credits like those in the 'Family Education Freedom Act' and the 'Education Improvement Tax Cut Act'."